Air Service to Vijayawada and Tirupati

174. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether Government propose to start air services to Vijayawada and regular services to Tirupati;

if so, the details thereof; and

by when the services arc likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) At present Tirupati is airlinked by Indian Airlines on 4 days per week and by Jet Airways on a daily basis. No scheduled operator is operating to/ from Vijayawada.

(b) Airlines are free to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines, which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

Recovery of dues from ticket agents by IA

† 175. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether crores of rupees of the Indian Airlines are outstanding against the ticket agents of the Airlines;

if so, the details thereof;

the steps taken by the Indian Airlines to recover the outstanding amount from these agents;

whether there is any proposal to hand over these agencies to the educated unemployed youths; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has to recover about Rs. 3.54 crores from the defaulting agents as on 30th June, 2000.

(c) The necessary action for recovery of dues has been initiated in all the cases and is at various stages of legal/recovery proceedings.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not airise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.